

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented) A garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket, comprising:

a garment member; and
a personal flotation device attached to the garment member;
wherein said personal flotation device comprises an inflatable collar associated with the garment member, said collar having a first end and a second end which are positioned in an overlapping relationship with respect to each other when the inflatable collar is in an inflated state.

Claims 2-6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 further including a cover member for stowing said inflatable collar in a deflated state.

Claims 8-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended) A garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket, comprising:

a garment member; and
a personal flotation device attached to the garment member;
wherein said personal flotation device comprises an inflatable collar associated with the garment member;
wherein said inflatable collar is self-closing and self-locking upon inflation around a user's neck and throat

~~wherein said inflatable collar is releasably attached to the garment member.~~

Claim 13 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein said inflatable collar comprises:

a collar bladder; and
means for inflating the collar bladder.

Claim 14 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 13 wherein said means for inflating comprises:

a compressed gas cylinder; and
a detonator in communication with said compressed gas cylinder.

Claim 15 (currently amended) A garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket, comprising:

a garment member; and
a personal flotation device attached to the garment member;
wherein said personal flotation device comprises an inflatable collar associated with the garment member;

wherein said inflatable collar defining a first acute angle on a left side of the inflatable collar and a second acute angle on a right side of the inflatable collar, wherein said first acute angle and said second acute angle set a degree of retraction of the first end and the second end of the inflatable collar across a user's throat

~~wherein said inflatable collar has a first end and a second end; wherein when inflating the collar a bottom surface portion of the second end rides along a top surface portion of the first end until the collar is properly positioned for a neck size of a user.~~

Claim 16 (currently amended) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 15 further including means for retaining the position of the second end with respect to the first end.

Claim 17 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 16 wherein said means for retaining is a hook and loop assembly associated with the first end and the second end.

Claims 18-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 further including an inflatable raft disposed in a deflated state between the garment member and a user wearing the garment member.

Claim 21 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein an outer surface portion of the first end of the inflatable collar is provided with a hook fabric and an outer surface portion of the second end of the inflatable collar is provided with a loop fabric, wherein in an inflated state a portion of the hook fabric mates with a portion of the loop fabric.

Claim 22 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein said inflatable collar is constructed from a single wall fabric which is coated with on both sides with a weldable film.

Claim 23 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein said inflatable collar is attached to the garment member by a flange, said flange attached to the inflatable collar and to the garment member.

Claim 24 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 14 wherein the compressed gas cylinder is attached at approximately a posterior center position of the inflatable collar to act as a fixed midline ballast.

Claim 25 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 13 wherein said means for inflating comprises an oral inflator attached to said inflatable collar.

Claim 26 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 25 wherein said oral inflator is attached at an desired angle and location of

inflatable collar such that in an inflated state the oral inflator is oriented towards a user's mouth.

Claim 27 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device of claim 1 wherein said inflatable collar defining a first acute angle on a left side of the inflatable collar and a second acute angle on a right side of the inflatable collar, wherein said first acute angle and said second acute angle set a degree of retraction of the first end and the second end of the inflatable collar across a user's throat.

Claim 28 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein said inflatable collar is self-closing and self-locking upon inflation around a user's neck and throat.

Claim 29 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 15 wherein said inflatable collar is self-closing and self-locking upon inflation around a user's neck and throat.

Claim 30 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein said garment member is body armor.

Claim 31 (previously presented) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim 1 wherein said garment member is routine wearing apparel.

Claim 32 (new) The garment integrated personal flotation device or life jacket of claim wherein said personal flotation device is releasably attached to said garment member.